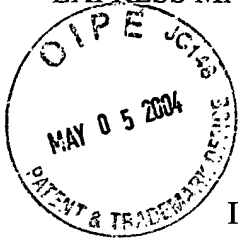


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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 14591.10



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hicks et al.

Serial No.: 09/931,392

Filed: August 16, 2001

Confirmation No.: 1575

For: BUCKLE LANYARD CONNECTOR AND SYSTEM

Examiner: Thomas Y. Ho

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AMENDMENT "D"

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Sir:

This response is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 5, 2004. Please amend the claims as follows.